



## FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

### DIVISION OF PLANNING & PERMITTING

Livable Frederick Planning & Design Office

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# News Release

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### Frederick County Designated Maryland's First Bird County



FREDERICK, Md. – The Maryland Bird Conservation Partnership officially recognized Frederick County as the State of Maryland's first "Bird County" during Earth Week 2025. The designation acknowledges the County's efforts in ecosystem restoration, environmental education, and habitat protection and marks a milestone in statewide efforts to connect communities through bird-friendly practices.

"Being named the first Bird County in Maryland is an honor and we are proud to lead the way in environmental stewardship," said County Executive Jessica Fitzwater. "This accomplishment reflects Frederick County's deep commitment to protecting our natural resources and fostering a community where both people and wildlife can thrive."

The Bird County Maryland program is an extension of the Bird City Maryland initiative, which is administered by the Maryland Bird Conservation Partnership. The program encourages towns, cities, college campuses, and counties to take measurable actions that improve conditions for local bird populations. Frederick County was recently added as the first official Bird County, joining a growing network that includes eight Bird Cities and four Bird Campuses across the state, such as the City of Brunswick, the City of Frederick, and the Town of Middletown. By joining this initiative, Frederick County becomes part of the larger Bird City Network which connects more than 200 bird-friendly communities across four countries in North and South America in their conservation efforts.

Birds are not only beautiful to watch—they also tell us a lot about the health of our environment. Because they respond quickly to changes in nature and are easy to observe, birds help us understand the conditions of our ecosystems. By protecting birds and their habitats, Frederick County is also protecting the health and well-being of its residents. The Bird County designation highlights this important connection and recognizes the County's continued leadership in environmental stewardship.

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*Frederick County: Rich History, Bright Future*

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As part of its Bird County designation, Frederick County has passed a Resolution in support of the Bird City Maryland initiative and will observe World Migratory Bird Day in North America each year, both key components of the Bird County Maryland program. These efforts aim to increase public awareness and inspire the community to take part in local conservation efforts.

To learn more about Frederick County's Bird County designation, upcoming events, or to explore top birdwatching spots in the area, visit [FrederickCountyMD.gov/BirdCounty](http://FrederickCountyMD.gov/BirdCounty).

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